

By Robert Foley

The Federal Communications Commission has recently proposed rules which would cause WHRC and most campus radio stations to discontinue broadcasting. On April 13, the Commission issued a public notice announcing proposed changes in the rules regarding the operation of low power devices. The rules, if enacted, would place WHRC under the same regulations as standard commercial stations, and unless these rules were modified for campus stations, they would make continuance of operation virtually impossible, as the requirements are beyond those which the station is equipped to meet.

The FCC has invited any interested persons to file comments on the proposed actions before the first of June, and if it feels that the comments warrant a hearing, one will be held to discuss the rules. The Inter-collegiate Broadcasting System, of which WHRC is a member, is representing the collective needs of campus radio stations in negotiations with the FCC and has suggested that member stations submit to the Commission statements from people closely connected with campus radio.

The IBS recommends that the briefs, in addition to arguing for campus radio stations, should request that the FCC make specific rules for campus radio and that hearings be held in order that the campus stations may present their cases. WHRC is complying with this request and would welcome testimonies from anyone who feels he ~~should~~

The Federal Communications Commission has recently proposed rules which would cause WNC and many other radio stations to discontinue broadcasting. On April 13, the Commission issued a public notice announcing proposed changes in the rules governing the operation of low power stations. The rules, if adopted, would place WNC under the same regulations as standard commercial stations, and unless these rules were modified for campus stations, they would make the continuation of operation virtually impossible, as the regulations are in regard to power which the station is required to meet.

The FCC has invited all interested persons to file comments on the proposed regulations by May 1, 1968, and it is felt that the campus community would be interested in this matter. The Federal Communications Commission, of which WNC is a member, is responsible for the regulation of radio and television stations in the United States and has suggested that campus stations should be the same as standard stations. It would be desirable to have a meeting with the FCC to discuss this matter.

The FCC record book for the public, in addition to the record for campus radio stations, would be required at the FCC and a meeting would be held in order to hear the views of the campus community. WNC is currently in the process of filing a request and would welcome the assistance from anyone who is interested.

is in a position to write an influential letter. The station will supply suggestions as to what points letters should cover. IBS has stressed the necessity of convincing the FCC of an active interest in campus radio stations.

The rules under which WHRC now operates were originally enacted for phono oscillators and other devices which might cause interference with standard broadcasting. They were later extended to include "wired-wireless" stations such as WHRC. This type of station broadcasts its programs by feeding the output from the transmitter into the power lines in the buildings being served. The power lines then act as an antenna and allow radiation of the signal in the buildings and for a limited distance outside of them. The legal limit of this distance is about three hundred feet for WHRC.

That the station comes in strongly near power lines is obvious to a WHRC listener in a car as he enters the campus from Railroad Avenue. The station is strong under the power lines near the gate and again near the Union, but in between it fades out and a Cuban station on the same frequency can be heard.

The present proposal of the FCC is to place stations of the wired-wireless type under the same rigid regulations which control commercial stations. These regulations, not only include technical specifications which would render inadequate ~~the~~ ^{the} greater part of WHRC's facilities and necessitate the purchase of new and expensive equipment, but also require a licensed radio engineer to be on duty at the trans-

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That the station comes dangerously near power lines is obvious to a WHEC listener in a car as he enters the campus from Railroad Avenue. The station is strong under the power lines near the gate and again near the Union, but in between it fades out and a listen station on the same frequency can be heard.

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